

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6823

BILL NUMBER: SB 519

NOTE PREPARED: Feb 11, 2003

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Sex Offender Registry.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Long

BILL STATUS: As Passed - Senate

FIRST SPONSOR: Rep. Herrell

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
X FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill has the following provisions:

- (A) It provides that a person who is found to be a sexually violent predator is required to register for life.
- (B) It specifies that an offender who is convicted as an adult of a sex and violent offense against a victim who is less than 12 years of age is required to register for life.

Effective Date: July 1, 2003.

Explanation of State Expenditures: *Provision A:* Under current law, certain sexually violent predators are required to register for an indefinite period of time until a court finds that the offender is no longer a sexually violent predator. Under this bill, an offender who meets this criteria will be required to remain in the Indiana Sex Offender Registry for the rest of the persons's life. This bill would likely not require added staff at the Criminal Justice Institute (CJI). Staff at CJI estimate that there are fewer than 50 sexually violent predators in the data base.

Provision B: Under current law, a sex offender under 18 years of age who victimized a child under 12 years of age and who was sentenced as an adult is not required to register as a sex offender. Under this bill, these offenders will register as sex offenders for life. Concerning offenders under 18 years of age sentenced as adults, four offenders who were in Department of Correction (DOC) facilities for a sex offense were under 18 years of age in January 2003. [Note: This fiscal note will be updated when information becomes available on the number of sex offenders under 18 years of age who are sentenced as an adult.]

Explanation of State Revenues: *Provisions A and B* would allow Indiana to comply with current federal

standards that require lifetime registration for violent sexual offenders. These requirements are related to the federal Jacob Wetterling Law and all its amendments. Compliance with federal law would ensure that Indiana continues to receive an estimated \$1 M each year. The federal grant money is passed on to state and local agencies to assist in funding programs that reduce crime and substance abuse.

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected: Trial courts, local law enforcement agencies.

Information Sources: Department of Correction; Catherine O'Connor, Criminal Justice Institute.

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